

Fiscal Year 2005

2nd Quarter
(Oct. – Dec. 2004)

New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development Division of Forests and Lands Quarterly Update



Highlights

- The towns of Orford and Alstead received the Gold Leaf Award from the NE Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture for outstanding Arbor Day Activities.
- More than 80 people from the states of Maine, NH, NY, and Vermont gathered to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Northern Forest Lands Council final report (see page 8)

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Before (left) and after (right) photos of a field/orchard restoration project conducted on the Straughan Lot at Woodman Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Northwood.

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Richard Herfurth, President of the New England Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture, presents Town of Alstead officials Richard and Joy Nalevanko the Gold Leaf Award for outstanding Arbor Day activities in conjunction with Alstead's designation as a TREE CITY USA award winning community.

Quarterly Update

Forest Management

CURRENT ONGOING TIMBER SALE ACTIVITY						
SALE	TOWN	ACRES	BOARD FEET (in thousands)	CORDS	VALUE	STATUS
Cardigan SF	Orange	95	255	1217	\$117,318.94	Operating
Province Road	Dorchester	40	97.8	450	\$23,614.50	Operating
Hemenway	Tamworth	39.6	205.8	200	\$28,312.60	Completed
Fay SF	Lincoln	164	226	1,860	\$126,134.59	Completed
Kona WMA	Moultonborough	162	761	677	\$151,212.80	Operating
White Lake SP	Tamworth	130	506	145	\$121,918.10	Completed
Cardigan SF	Orange	111	104	425	\$11,805.00	Operating (inactive)
Wade SF	Hill	33.5	114	237	\$26,066.00	Completed
Gile SF	Springfield	140	227	2,011	\$67,557.12	Under contract
Enfield SF	Enfield	90	92	527	\$78,800.20	Operating
Honey Brook	Marlow	82	298	235	\$71,552	Completed
Lamontagne & Woodman Marsh	Deerfield & Northwood	84	314	642		Operating (inactive)
Nash Stream SF	Stark	227	110	1,537	\$52,732.36	Operating
Nash Stream SF	Stratford	165	102	1,750 670 tons	\$40,771.00	Operating
Perkins Pond WMA	Weare	100	210	436	\$26,107.44	Operating (inactive)
Mast Yard	Concord	72	363	257	\$46,738	Operating
Bear Brook	Allentown	151	407	970	\$92,056	Operating
Powder Mill Pond WMA	Greenfield	73	90	1003 tons	\$10,819.51	Under contract
Ballard SF	Derry	36	118	466 tons		Bid opening 1/19

QUARTERLY INVENTORY and MAPPING				
Property	Town	Field Work (acres)	Inventory Reports & Mapping (acres)	Data Management (acres)
Franklin Falls	Franklin	460		
Blackwater	Salisbury			739
Nash Stream	Stark			411
Moose Brook SP	Gorham	254		744
Ballard SF	Derry		71	
Pine River SF	Effingham		489	
Hemenway SF	Tamworth	60		
Livermore SF	Campton	174	87	
Jones Brook WMA	Brookfield	200		
Cushman SF	Bethlehem	25		25
Strawberry Hill SF	Bethlehem	53		
Cathedral Ledge SP	Bartlett	20		

Forest Management *continued*

Forest Management Quarterly Highlights

Forestry & Wildlife	29.5 acres of wildlife habitat enhancement including 2 acres of old field/orchard restoration, 16 acres of field mowing and early successional habitat work, and 11.5 acres of lime and fertilizer application for cool season grass establishment. Planning for an additional 26 acres of wildlife habitat enhancement underway
Forest Roads	Improvements or construction on approximately 12 miles of roads.
Technical Assistance	Assisted NH Fish & Game with monumentation and GPS of wildlife survey plots at Ballamy River WMA. Provided assistance to the Forest Protection Bureau for 5 streamside basal area violations in Northumberland and one timber trespass in Jefferson.
Education & Outreach	Hosted a field tour of a timber sale at Nash Stream SF for a logger's workshop. Conducted a one day workshop on trails issues on state lands. Participated in career day for 6 th grade students.
Nursery	2005 seedling orders this quarter: 82,610 seedlings sold totaling \$39,050. Measured 1 st years growth on the White Pine Progeny test at Walker SF. 3 collections of stock for the cancer research using pin cherry from the Nursery. Conducted UNH Silviculture class tour.
Easements	Reviewed Pillsbury/Sunapee easement and stewardship plan
Recreation	Reviewed 7 miles of proposed road/trail work submitted for possible grant approval by snow machine clubs. Reviewed proposed x-country ski trail proposal.

Community Forestry & Stewardship

Outreach & Education

- 8 Programs were presented at the Urban Forestry Center and Shieling Forest. They were attended by 164 people.
- Coming Events flyers were distributed to 4,405 individuals.
- Staff responded to 520 requests for information
- Designed/developed 4 informational displays including: Fall Foliage, Winter Landscape, Bug Specimen, & Farm and Forest Expo Division Display
- Conducted a chainsaw safety workshop in Meredith

Community Assistance

- Technical assistance was provided to 7 communities including Dover, Durham, Laconia, Meredith, Milton, Portsmouth, and Rochester.

Partnership Activities

- Participated in the NH Community Tree Steward Committee meeting. Assisted Tree Stewards in the Downtown Portsmouth Tree Inventory.
- Assisted the Portsmouth Historical Society in improving the garden and paths around the John Paul Jones House. Urban Forestry Center staff, John Paul Jones House trustees, Community Tree Stewards, City of Portsmouth employees, and crew members from the submarine USS Montpelier pruned trees, removed overgrown shrubs, and restored old paths in the gardens.



Urban Forestry Center staff member AJ Duprere prunes trees at the John Paul Jones House project.

Quarterly Update

Natural Heritage

Activities	Information	Qtr	Ytd
Database records added or updated	Biological and Conservation Data System (BCD) & Biotics	1159	2956
Environmental reviews	For: DES / DOT / federal grants / planning boards	294	613
Information requests – GIS		10	17
– Other		900	1,800
Landowners contacted – survey permission		0	0
Projects opened		0	7
Projects closed	USGS Invasives, St. Gaudens, Great Bay, NPS indicators	4	4
Reports prepared	Star Island, Sunapee Lease Area, Cocheco River & Follett's Brook, Upland Systems, Section 6 (3), St. Gaudens interim report.	8	9
Training / Workshops presented / Assisted		0	3
Training / Workshops Attendees		0	130
Other outreach	Comments on AT Management Plan, Comments on WMNF Forest Plan, review of WMNF rare plant list, review of Rhodora article	4	5
Web page additions		0	2
Web page visits		1,864	4,239
Professional Improvement Training Attended	Advanced Biotics, Biotics Clinic, Element Distribution Modeling	3	4
Committee / Meetings Attended	ArcView Users Group, NH GIS Advisory Committee, Comprehensive Wildlife planning meetings, Flora of New England editorial committee, State Land Management Team, NH Invasive Species Committee	6	9
Conferences Attended		0	1



Reports prepared by NH Natural Heritage described field work on Star Island (left: tree swallows and maritime shrub thicket) and Mt. Sunapee (right: Bill Nichols next to a stag-headed yellow birch).



Urban Forester – Highlights

- NH TREE CITY USA communities of Alstead and Orford received Gold Leaf Awards from the International Society of Arboriculture for outstanding Arbor Day activities. Urban Forester worked with Alstead and Orford community officials to develop press releases regarding the awards.
- Administered the NH Arborist Association Certification Exam; five new NH arborists certified.
- Presented 2 arboriculture training seminars to commercial, utility, and industry candidate arborists.
- Responded to 6 inquiries about the NH Tree Memorials Program and initiated process for program implementation.
- Directed and assisted 25 existing and potential Tree City USA communities with certification and recertification application process. Monitored urban forestry activities in nineteen New Hampshire TREECITYUSA communities.
- Provided 33 consults regarding tree species selection; planting, maintenance, & aftercare recommendations; tree species appraisals, arborist industry safety practices; arborist certification; & nursery professional's technical requests.

Land Management

Land Management

- G&C approval for sale of Priest House at Shieling State Forest.
- G&C approval to renew 91 Camp Lot licenses in Nash Stream
- Reviewed the 2005 plan to spread bio-solids on the White Farm fields.
- Issued the Town of Jaffrey a groundwater exploration permit in Annett State Forest.

Acquisitions

- Continued work on the following forest land acquisitions:
Pillsbury/Sunapee Highlands, Rossview Farm, Baker Site 7 Tract, Moose Mountain, Fall Mountain, Trout Pond, 13-Mile Woods II.
- Continue to work on the following acquisitions for Division of Parks:
Fort Hill Campground - Hinsdale, Mt. Washington
Summit/Dartmouth tract, Reed Tract & Jewell Lot at Monadnock SP, Jerico Lake - Berlin, Palmer group fee and easement lands - Twin Mtn.

Technical Assistance

- Issued 8 special use permits on DRED lands
- New parking lot was constructed and dedicated at Blue Job State Forest (**see photo**).
- Prepared the following maps: Lower Shaker Village WMA & Mt. Kearsarge timber sales; Ballard Mill & Pine River type maps; forest protection individual district maps & tower/repeater/ranger maps.

Boundary Line Maintenance

- A total of 16.3 miles of boundary line maintenance was completed.



Bill Bartlett cuts the ribbon at the Blue Job Parking Lot dedication as division staff, friends, and family look on. This project was made possible thanks to a generous donation of land by the Bartlett Family.

Forest Legacy Program

The Forest Legacy Program is a partnership between participating States and the USDA Forest Service to identify and help protect environmentally important forests from conversion to non-forest uses. Conservation easements are the main tool used for protecting these lands. The Division of Forests and Lands administers this program.

Year-to-Date Status of New Hampshire Forest Legacy Projects

Project	Application Approved	Funded	Project Status
Pillsbury-Sunapee <i>Bradford, Goshen, Newbury, Washington</i>	6/6/01	FY 04 \$2,499,000	appraisal & survey completed, easement approved
Moose Mountain <i>Middleton, Brookfield, New Durham, Alton</i>	8/13/02	FY 04 \$988,000	limited use appraisal completed landowner negotiations underway
13 Mile Woods II <i>Errol, Cambridge</i>	8/13/02	FY 05 \$2,000,000	easement & stewardship plan under development, appraisal complete
Trout Pond <i>Freedom, Madison</i>	8/13/02	FY 05 \$1,200,000	easement under development appraisal underway
Rossvie Farm <i>Concord</i>	5/25/04	FY06 request	easement under development
Willard Pond	9/23/04	FY06 request	
Temple Mountain	9/23/04	FY06 request	

Forest Fire & Law Enforcement

Law Enforcement Activity																
	Deceptive Forestry		Timber Trespass		Water Quality		B/A Slash		Timber Tax		Fire		Other		Total	
	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd
Court Summons - Felony	1	1											1	1	2	2
Court Summons - Misdemeanor			4	4			2	2				1	1	1	7	8
Court Summons – Violation			2	2	3	6	6	6	1	2	3	3	2	2	17	21
Administrative Summons	2	2		3	2	5	1	1		4		5			5	20
Warning		4	5	13	13	39	29	58	13	49	14	39		2	74	204
Cease & Desist			1	1	8	13			2	6		1			11	21
Total	3	7	12	23	26	63	38	67	16	61	17	49	4	6	116	276
Timber Sale Activity																
	Qtr		YTD													
Number of Intents Filed	988		2061													
Number of Initial Inspections	560		1142													
Number of Reinspections	119		244													
Fire Protection and Prevention Activities																
	Qtr		YTD													
Number of Fires	53		156													
Total Acres	150.855		156.3													
Number of Structures	1		1													
Reported by:																
Tower	14		57													
Air Patrol			8													
Mobile Patrol																
Citizen Call	36		76													
Ranger	3		7													
Outreach																
	Total		Attendees													
	Qtr	YTD	Qtr	YTD												
Calls for Service – Timber Law Enforcement	298	637														
Calls for Service – Fire Law Enforcement	80	186														
Calls for Service – Fire protection	319	642														
Student Presentations	10	13	1422	2022												
Public Presentations	22	50	836	5452												
Fire Training	4	15	61	225												
Timber Law Enforcement Training	7	10	175	200												

Highlight:

The Forest Protection Bureau received a felony conviction against Mark Carpenter of Lochmere. Carpenter pled guilty to two felony counts of Deceptive Forestry Business Practices for failing to pay for wood harvested from two separate timber sales he was operating in late 2002 and early 2003 in New Hampton and Tilton. Carpenter was sentenced to serve 1 ½ to 3 years at the New Hampshire State Prison, suspended on the condition of good behavior and compliance with all the terms of the order. Carpenter has also been placed on probation for two years and has been ordered to pay more than \$13,000 in restitution to the landowners.

Forest Health

Highlights: Regulation efforts to prevent the accidental introduction or spread of exotic pests, including hemlock woolly adelgid and *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden oak death), have been a recent focus.

Outreach

- Presentation to the Peterborough Garden Club on emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, hemlock woolly adelgid and sudden oak death.
- Assisted companies and individuals with locating and purchasing the color infra-red photography taken following the 1999 ice storm.

Regulation

- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid timber harvest inspections and inspections of forest lots and yards were conducted in order to reduce the accidental spread of this insect.

Technical Assistance

- Responded to 25 requests for information on forest health issues, predominantly hemlock woolly adelgid and general tree health.
- Made 12 site visits to landowners with forest/tree health problems.

Forest Health Evaluation

- Began data analysis on crown condition and soil samples collected on 58 plots through Franconia Notch. The purpose of the project is to determine the cause of extensive roadside mortality in Franconia Notch State Park.
- Completed annual pheromone trapping inventories indicating that forest tent caterpillar and spruce budworm populations have increased significantly. Gypsy moth population is down.



Example of Sudden oak death on a live oak tree in California. USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area Pest Alert, January 2002.

Employee Recognition & Personnel Status

New Employees and Vacancies

On January 21, 2005 Forest Ranger **Brad Simpkins** was promoted to the position of Chief, Forest Protection Bureau. Simpkins replaces Bud Nelson, who retired from the position after 28 years of service to the state.

Vacancies include: Forest Management Bureau Administrator, Forest Ranger I, and North Region - Regional Forester.

Office of the Director

Legislative activity: The Division of Forests and Lands is currently tracking 9 bills introduced this session. The agency requested legislation to allow the Natural Heritage Bureau to accept income. (HB597)

Forest Policy: Northern Forest Lands Council 10th Anniversary Conference – In October 2004 the North East State Foresters Association organized a 24-member forum from the states of Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, and Maine review the recommendations of the Northern Forest Lands Council and to consider other actions important to the region. The forum group drafted an initial report titled “*Recommendations for the Conservation of the Northern Forest Region of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York.*”

On December 10, 2004 foresters, landowners, public officials, wildlife professionals, and concerned citizens from the four states met to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the release of the Northern Forest Lands Council final report and to offer comments on the forum group’s draft recommendations.

WMNF Plan Revision - Director submitted comments on behalf of the Division to the White Mountain Nation Forest regarding the proposed Land and Resources Management Plan

Current Use Board (director serves on the board): In November the Current Use Board held a series of public forums around the state to hear comment regarding a proposed Current Use Tax rate changes and any other concerns related to current use.

Forester Licensing Board (director serves as chair):

Number of new licensees: 3

Number of disciplinary actions: 0

Number of complaints under investigation: 0

For More Information:

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